

QUESTIONS
ON THE
PLAYS OF SHAKESPEARE,

USED IN THE CLASSES OF THE
DETROIT TRAINING SCHOOL OF ELOCUTION
AND ENGLISH LITERATURE.

(Copyright, 1880.)

CORIOLANUS.

Detroit Training School
of
Elocution.

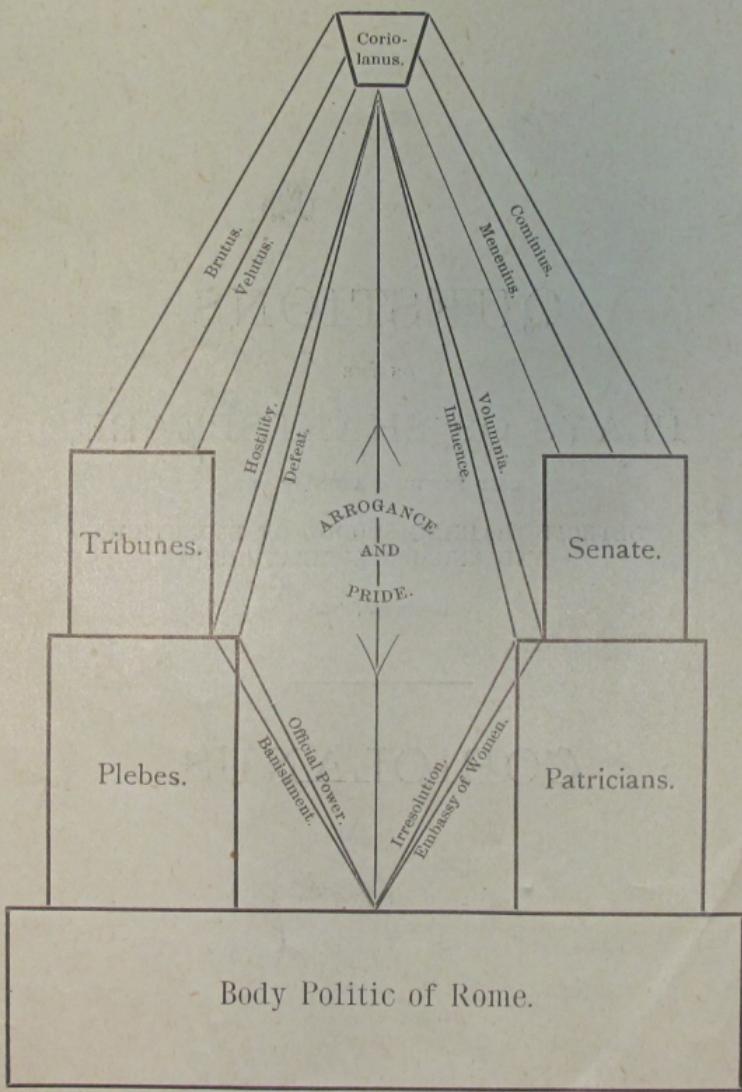


DIAGRAM OF "CORIOLANUS."

Edna Chaffee Noble.

(Copyright.)

QUESTIONS ON THE DIAGRAM.

1. How was the body politic of Rome represented at the time of the incidents narrated in the play?
2. What were these classes called?
3. Who were the first plebeians?
4. Who were the first patricians?
5. How may we term these two classes?
6. Which were most numerous?
7. How were they oppressed?
8. If the plebeian failed to pay, what power had the patrician?
9. What might a plebeian give as security for the debt?
10. How did the plebeian take the first step?
11. How was a reconciliation effected?
12. Did the plebeian gain anything by this?
13. What aided Coriolanus to hold his high position?
14. What was the feeling of the plebes?
15. Why was this?
16. Through whose influence was he defeated in the consulship?
17. How many and what factors were concerned in his downfall?
18. Why do not the Volscians and Aufidius appear in the diagram?
19. What part do Aufidius and his troops play in the career of Coriolanus?
20. Was his down-fall certain had there been no Aufidius?

QUESTIONS ON THE PLAY.

1. What can be said of the family of Marcius at Rome?
2. Whom among others did it include?
3. By whom was Caius Marcius reared?
4. Against whom did he make his first campaign?
5. What mark of honor was bestowed on him on this occasion?
6. What privileges did it confer?
7. What mythological characters are said to have fought for Rome in the final battle?
8. What was the date of the battle?
9. From the disorder of the Roman Calendar, upon what date did it actually fall?
10. Why was Caius Marcius called Coriolanus?
11. What does it indicate?
12. In what other manner did the Consul Cominius seek to honor him?
13. Why did he not accept it?
14. What was the occasion of the tumult at Rome, detailed in the first scene?
15. Why were the people especially incensed against Marcius?
16. What did the plebeians finally do?
17. Who was Menenius Agrippa?
18. Is the story of the body and its members, related by Menenius, historical?
19. What remarkable discovery is foreshadowed therein?
20. How long after Shakespeare's death did Harvey publish his discovery?
21. What concession was finally made by the Senate?
22. What essential difference is there between the play of Coriolanus and Julius Caesar?
23. What other play gives us another view of Roman life?
24. Which is prominent in Volumnia's character, maternal love or love of country?
25. What are the points of distinction between Volumnia and Virgilia?
26. Distinguish between Caius Marcius and his mother Volumnia.
27. Quote to prove the above.

28. What impresses us with the real power and grandeur of Volumnia's character?
29. When did Marcius stand for the consulship?
30. What was the custom of the candidate when soliciting the suffrages of the people?
31. Was this in harmony with the pride and spirit of Coriolanus?
32. What did Coriolanus do that was extremely distasteful to the people?
33. What was the final result of his candidacy?
34. To what penalty was he first sentenced?
35. Through whose intercession was the sentence mitigated?
36. What was the final sentence?
37. How was a vote obtained against him in favor of the punishment?
38. What had been the custom?
39. Through whose instigation was the charge made?
40. Why were the tribunes thus bold and persistent?
41. Did they possess any judicial or executive power?
42. To what number were they afterwards increased?
43. Who were the *Ædiles*? How many did they number?
44. At the time of Coriolanus what were their duties?
45. What pun of Menenius do you discover in Act II, Scene 1?
46. What fine by-play do we discover in this same scene during the welcome of Coriolanus?
47. How does the play show this?
48. What speech of Cominius truly reflects the Roman idea of nobility and virtue?
49. Does Menenius resemble any other of Shakespeare's characters?
50. Where did Coriolanus go immediately after leaving the city?
51. What is the force of the expression, "Now this extremity hath brought me to thy hearth," in Act IV, Scene 5?
52. Why did he select this locality in which to deliver his petition?
53. Under what contemptible refuge do the citizens betake themselves, in Act IV, Scene 6?
54. Who gives us the fairest and most complete estimate of the character of Coriolanus?
55. Quote to prove this, using his words.
56. What moral does Menenius point, in Act V, Scene 1?
57. Who first proposed the deputation of women, which was successful with Coriolanus?
58. What did the senate do in honor of their rescue?
59. Where was it built, and who was the first priestess?
60. What was the manner of Coriolanus' death?
61. What do you think of Coriolanus' yielding to the solicitations of his mother?



The **Margaret Eaton School Digital Collection** is a not-for-profit resource created in 2014-2015 to assist scholars, researchers, educators and students to discover the Margaret Eaton School archives housed in the Peter Turkstra Library at Redeemer University College. Copyright of the digital images is the property of Redeemer University College, Ancaster, Canada and the images may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email digital images for individual non-commercial use. To learn more about this project or to search the digital collection, go to <http://libguides.redeemer.ca/mes>